

REMARKS

This reply is in response to the Advisory Action dated September 3, 2009 and the Final Office Action dated June 19, 2009. Claims 1-11, 13, 16, and 18-21 are pending in the application. Claims 1 and 19 are amended.

In particular, Claim 1 has been amended to the single embodiment of oligomerization of olefins and further combined with the limitations of Claims 14 and 17 so that only the oligomerization of specific olefins to specific higher olefins by zeolite catalysts are considered.

Claim 19 has been amended to recite "further". Claim 18 was amended to depend from claim 1.

No new matter has been added.

Claims 1-14 and 16-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over NPL to Cavani *et al.*, entitled "Effect of Water in the Performance of the Solid Phosphoric Acid Catalyst for Alkylation of Benzene to Cumene and for Oligomerization of Propene" in view of PCT Publication No. WO 93/16020.

The present claims are directed to the oligomerization of light olefins to higher olefins by zeolite catalyst wherein the water content of the feed during the conversion process is higher initially than in later stages of the conversion.

In view of the amendments, it is respectfully urged that Cavani *et al.* reference becomes essentially irrelevant, since it is directed to conversions using SPA catalyst.

Furthermore, the WO '020 reference discusses a content of water outside the range discussed by Cavani *et al.* As pointed out by the Examiner, Cavani *et al.* discloses a water content of about 100 to 1000 ppm for oligomerization whereas the WO '020 references teaches use of at least 0.05 mol%. Accordingly, WO '020 actually teaches away from the present invention. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

For these reasons, it is respectfully urged that the present invention is in conditions for allowance and early notice to this effect is earnestly solicited.

If necessary to affect a timely response, this paper should be considered as a petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to affect a timely response, and please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 05-1712 (Docket No. 2003B136/2).

Respectfully submitted,

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Date

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